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IN THE CLAIMS

The status of the claims as presently amended is as follows:

1. (Canceled)

2. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~A vehicle body structure ~~according to claim 1, comprising:~~
a front side member extending in a longitudinal direction of a vehicle body;
a side frame member provided rearwardly and laterally of said front side member; and
a coupling member through which said front side member is coupled to said side frame
member,

wherein a coupled face including at least one ridge is formed in a rear portion of said
front side member,

wherein said coupling member has a front portion extending along the coupled face,

wherein the front portion that extends along the coupled face has a coupling face
including at least one ridge so as to be in face-contact with and to be joined to the coupled face
of said front side member,

wherein the rear portion of said front side member is joined to a dash panel of the
vehicle body, the dash panel being formed with a notch, and

wherein said coupling member extends from said side frame member through the notch,
and is coupled to said front side member.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~A vehicle body structure ~~according to claim 1, comprising:~~
a front side member extending in a longitudinal direction of a vehicle body;
a side frame member provided rearwardly and laterally of said front side member; and
a coupling member through which said front side member is coupled to said side frame
member,

wherein a coupled face including at least one ridge is formed in a rear portion of said
front side member,

wherein said coupling member has a front portion extending along the coupled face,

wherein the front portion that extends along the coupled face has a coupling face

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including at least one ridge so as to be in face-contact with and to be joined to the coupled face of said front side member.

wherein said front side member is formed to have a closed cross-section, and
wherein said coupling member is inserted into the closed cross-section of said front side member.

4. *(Currently Amended)* The vehicle body structure according to claim [[1]]3, wherein:

said front side member is formed by an outer panel and an inner panel that are joined to each other,

said coupling member is formed into a U-shape in cross section which opens to said outer panel, and is joined to the outer panel, and

said outer panel cooperates with said coupling member to form a closed cross-section.

5. *(Currently Amended)* ~~The~~ A vehicle body structure according to claim 1, comprising:

a front side member extending in a longitudinal direction of a vehicle body;

a side frame member provided rearwardly and laterally of said front side member; and

a coupling member through which said front side member is coupled to said side frame member.

wherein a coupled face including at least one ridge is formed in a rear portion of said front side member.

wherein said coupling member has a front portion extending along the coupled face.

wherein the front portion that extends along the coupled face has a coupling face including at least one ridge so as to be in face-contact with and to be joined to the coupled face of said front side member.

wherein the coupled face of said front side member has an upper face, an intermediate face, and a side face, a first ridge being formed between the upper face and the intermediate face and a second ridge being formed between the intermediate face and the side face,

wherein the coupling face of said coupling member has an upper face, an intermediate face, and a side face, a third ridge being formed between the upper face and the intermediate

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face and a fourth ridge being formed between the intermediate face and the side face, and
wherein the first ridge is continuous with the third ridge, and the second ridge is
continuous with the fourth ridge.

6. (Original) The vehicle body structure according to claim 5, wherein the third and fourth ridges
are joined to one on a rear side of the vehicle body.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~A vehicle body structure ~~according to claim 7, comprising:~~
a dash panel provided at a front portion of the vehicle body;
a front side member extending in a longitudinal direction of the vehicle body while
forming a closed cross-sectional structure, and having a rear portion thereof joined to said dash
panel;
a cross member extending along said dash panel in a width direction of the vehicle
body, and having an end portion thereof formed with a fixture face that is joined to the rear
portion of said front side member;
a side frame member provided rearwardly and laterally of said front side member; and
a coupling member through which said front side member is coupled to said side frame
member,
wherein a coupled face including at least one ridge is formed in the rear portion of said
front side member,
wherein said coupling member has a front portion extending along the coupled face,
wherein the front portion that extends along the coupled face has a coupling face
including at least one ridge,
wherein the coupling face is in face-contact with and joined to the coupled face of said
front side member so as to overlap the fixture face of said cross member,
wherein a notch is formed in said dash panel, and said coupling member extends from
said side frame member through the notch toward said front side member.

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9. (Currently Amended) The vehicle body structure according to claim [[7]]8, wherein said cross member has left and right ends thereof that are curved forwardly, and a front end of the curved portion is joined to said front side member.

10. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~A vehicle body structure ~~according to claim 7, comprising:~~
a dash panel provided at a front portion of the vehicle body;
a front side member extending in a longitudinal direction of the vehicle body while forming a closed cross-sectional structure, and having a rear portion thereof joined to said dash panel;
a cross member extending along said dash panel in a width direction of the vehicle body, and having an end portion thereof formed with a fixture face that is joined to the rear portion of said front side member;
a side frame member provided rearwardly and laterally of said front side member; and
a coupling member through which said front side member is coupled to said side frame member,
wherein a coupled face including at least one ridge is formed in the rear portion of said front side member,
wherein said coupling member has a front portion extending along the coupled face,
wherein the front portion that extends along the coupled face has a coupling face including at least one ridge,
wherein the coupling face is in face-contact with and joined to the coupled face of said front side member so as to overlap the fixture face of said cross member,
wherein a flange extending upward is formed in a rear end of said front side member, and a flange extending upward is formed in an upper face of said cross member and is overlapped with and joined to the flange of said front side member.

11. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~A vehicle body structure ~~according to claim 7, comprising:~~
a dash panel provided at a front portion of the vehicle body;
a front side member extending in a longitudinal direction of the vehicle body while

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forming a closed cross-sectional structure, and having a rear portion thereof joined to said dash panel;

a cross member extending along said dash panel in a width direction of the vehicle body, and having an end portion thereof formed with a fixture face that is joined to the rear portion of said front side member;

a side frame member provided rearwardly and laterally of said front side member; and
a coupling member through which said front side member is coupled to said side frame member,

wherein a coupled face including at least one ridge is formed in the rear portion of said front side member,

wherein said coupling member has a front portion extending along the coupled face,
wherein the front portion that extends along the coupled face has a coupling face
including at least one ridge,

wherein the coupling face is in face-contact with and joined to the coupled face of said front side member so as to overlap the fixture face of said cross member,

wherein the coupled face of said front side member has an upper face, an intermediate face, and a side face, a first ridge being formed between the upper face and the intermediate face and a second ridge being formed between the intermediate face and the side face[;],

wherein the fixture face of said cross member has an upper face, an intermediate face, and a side face, a fifth ridge being formed between the upper face and the intermediate face and a sixth ridge being formed between the intermediate face and the side face[;],

wherein the first ridge is continuous with the fifth ridge, and the second ridge is continuous with the sixth ridge.

12. (*Original*) The vehicle body structure according to claim 11, wherein the fifth and sixth ridges are joined into one on a rear side of the vehicle body.

13. (*Currently Amended*) The vehicle body structure according to claim 12, wherein:
the coupling face of said coupling member has an upper face, an intermediate face, and

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a side face, a third ridge being formed between the upper face and the intermediate face, and a fourth ridge being formed between the intermediate face and the side face; and

the first and third ridges are continuous with the fifth ridge, and the second and fourth ridges are continuous with the sixth ridge.